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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 25 | Min 21 | Humidity 80% Partly Cloudy Sensex 81,773 | Nifty 25,046 | Gold 1,23,047 | Silver 1,49,055 | Dollar 88.77 | Euro 103.16 | GBP 119.15

MAKE IT FAIR

Physically challenged senior citizens demand accessible govt buildings, better pensions or employment options

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GONE TO NATIVE

Officials propose fresh strategy to update city's People's Biodiversity Register to protect native species

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4,469 cases of reckless driving, 18,932 motorists booked for speeding, 23,950 cases of drunk driving in city this year. But, those who jump signals have overtaken all these violators with 4,41,203 cases so far

RULES ARE MEANT TO BE BROKEN ON CITY'S ROADS

Experts say poor road design, lack of pedestrian infra, no awareness on traffic discipline too contribute to mayhem

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

While Bengaluru has emerged as one of the deadliest cities in the country for road users, ranking third nationwide in accidental deaths, now the top killer traits have been exposed too. Joint Commissioner of Traffic police said it has been identified that speeding, drunk driving, signal violations, lane indiscipline, and pedestrian negligence are the primary causes behind the rising toll of road mishaps.

According to traffic police data, a total of 3,105 road accidents were reported in Bengaluru till August this year, indicating a worrying trend in the city's traffic safety record. On average, the city witnessed nearly 388 accidents each month between January and August. with 539 fatal cases resulting in 558 deaths and 2,734 injuries.

Despite several safety initiatives and enforcement drives, the city continues to witness an upward trend in fatal road accidents. " "Rash driving, speeding and drunk driving remain the top contributors to accidents, followed closely by reckless

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

"Rash driving, speeding and drunk driving remain the top contributors to accidents, followed closely by reckless overtaking and traffic signal jumpings. Not following lane discipline too is among the common reasons for accidents

—Karthik Reddy, Joint Commissioner of Traffic

Dose of dread

Anxious parents make beeline for paediatricians to better understand what is safe and what isn't after cough syrup tragedy

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Days after contaminated cough syrup claimed the lives of 17 children in Madhya Pradesh, parents in Bengaluru are a worried lot. Anxious, they are queuing up outside paediatricians' clinics in the city, asking healthcare experts about safe medication options for cough in children.

City-based hospitals say the main concerns among parents are around the possibility of toxic ingredients like diethylene glycol, poor quality control during manufacturing, and the use of multi-ingredient formulations that may not be suitable for young children.

"Parents are anxious about the medicines meant to treat fever, cough, etc. The most common question is, "Doctor, are these medicines really safe for my child? The younger the child, the higher the risk from these adulterated medicines," said Dr. Manjunath G, Consultant – Neonatologist and Paediatrician, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Sarjapur Road.

Parents are also worried about unclear labeling, over-the-counter availability, and the common practice of self-medicating without medical guidance.

Doctors say these issues are particularly serious for infants and toddlers less than

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Bright side up

Orion Malls are holding a DIY Diwali workshop for children and families. Design your own creations with terracotta diya painting, candles and candle holders, wall hangings, stunning lotus wall decor and many more Diwali themed DIY creations. **Where: Orion Avenue Mall, Cooke Town & Orion Uptown Mall Whitefield-Hoskote; When: October 11, 12 and October 18, 19**

02 Culture curated

Somaiya Kala Vidya's Annual Graduation Exhibition – Kai Magga Kale Sangama – presents a shared mission to empower artisans, preserve India's cultural heritage, and promote sustainable livelihoods. **Where: Sabha, Shivaji Nagar; When: October 11 and 12, 10 am to 7 pm**

03 Frame of mind

Anek Art Collective is presenting its maiden group exhibition, '8 Artists, 8 Narratives', a celebration of the diverse styles of artworks from its talented artists. The collective, whose name 'Anek' means 'multitude', reflects a group identity at the intersection of divergent creative perspectives. **Where: Art Houz, Vasanth Nagar; When: Until October 12, 10.30 am to 7 pm**

04 Groove on

Windmills is presenting Barmer Boys, the globally renowned torchbearers of Rajasthan's Manganiyar musical tradition. Blending the soulful depth of ancient folk and Sufi sounds with contemporary spirit, Barmer Boys bring India's desert music to life on international stages. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: October 10, 11, 9.30 pm**

05 Shopping spree

Rajasthan Grameen Mela organised by artisans from across the country is holding an exhibition-cum-sale featuring a vast range of cotton, silk, handloom, handicraft products and jewellery from all over India. **Where: Sri Hari Kalyana Mandapa, Banashankari; When: Until October 26, 10 am to 9 pm**

People with disabilities rally for pension hike

Members of Karnataka State Disabled and Caregivers Federation urge government to increase monthly pension, demand support to empower those with disabilities

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KAUSHIK JN

Hundreds of persons with disabilities from across the state gathered at Freedom Park on October 8 to protest for their long-pending demands

Hundreds of physically-challenged persons from across the state gathered at Freedom Park on Wednesday in support of their long-pending demands. They staged a protest demanding the central and state governments to increase their pension from Rs 1,000 to Rs 10,000.

The group, under the banner of Karnataka State Disabled and Caregivers Federation, said that they appreciate the state government for granting a pension of Rs 1,000 for people affected with seven types of disabilities. "On an average, a physically-challenged person with above 40 per cent disability gets Rs 1,400 as a pension per month. We demand the state government to provide employment for physically-challenged people to avoid them depending on the government for pension," said GN Nagaraj, President, Karnataka State Disabled and Caregivers Federation.

He urged the state government to increase the pension to be on par with neighbouring states. "We have submitted a memorandum to the Commissioner who visited us today. The Commissioner has assured us to send our memorandum to the higher authorities," he said.

Rangarajappa Dasar, General Secretary of Karnataka State Disabled and Caregivers Federation, said that many people with disabilities in the state have been facing a lot of problems due to lack of employment opportunities. "We have been demanding the government to utilise the five per cent of funds allocated to local bodies for the welfare of physically-challenged people. I want the local bodies to encourage and support physically-challenged people in rural areas by allocating afforestation work," said Dasar.

Karnataka State Disabled and Caregivers Federation President says State should give employment to persons with disabilities to avoid dependence on pensions

Arpuda Rajan, Zonal Secretary of the Karnataka State Disabled and Caregivers Federation, said the group is demanding that revenue offices and banks be made disabled-friendly, as most government buildings remain inaccessible to people with disabilities. "All the buildings are not 100 per cent accessible as per standards. Even our own State Commissioner's Office in the Slum Board building is not accessible. I demand the government to introduce a single window facility for the benefit of people with disabilities," said Rajan.

The demands also include an increase in pension to Rs 10,000 per month, with Rs 5,000 contributed by the Centre and Rs 5,000 by the State. They are also calling for all government departments, including local bodies, to utilise the five per cent of funds allocated for the welfare of persons with disabilities. They say that housing must be provided to those without shelter, and free bus passes should be issued to individuals with disabilities. Additionally, they are seeking a Rs 3 lakh incentive for anyone marrying a person with a disability, and Rs 6 lakh for marriages between two physically challenged individuals. Finally, the group is urging the state government to establish physiotherapy centres at both taluk and district headquarters to improve access to essential rehabilitation services.

BU medals: Stories of true grit

At the 60th annual convocation of Bangalore University held on Wednesday, stories of grit and determination stood out as students from humble backgrounds proved that financial hardship is no barrier to success. Prema S, daughter of a street vendor, won 11 gold medals in Kannada studies. Originally from Jakli village in Gadag district, her parents migrated to Bengaluru for work. Her father sells watches on the roadside near Jalahalli Cross, while her mother supplies chapatis to hotels. Prema, who studied at the University's Centre for Kannada Studies, said she wishes to become a lecturer and contribute to Kannada literature.

Hemanth S, son of an auto driver from Shivamogga, won seven gold medals and 3 cash prizes in Civil Engineering. After completing a diploma with 98.65 per cent, he pursued his degree at the Jnanabharathi campus. Another achiever, Divya S, daughter of a worker from Madurai, bagged 6 gold medals in B Com. She hopes to continue her education next year while improving her family's financial condition.

During the convocation, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot awarded degrees and medals to the students. A total of 30,300 students qualified for degrees this year, with 298 receiving gold medals and 218 winning cash prizes.

The university also conferred honorary doctorates on Speaker UT Khader, former MLC D Madegowda, and Dr TB Prasanna, Managing Director of GP Agri Genetics Pvt Ltd. Vice-Chancellor Dr SM Jaikar clarified that the selection of honorary doctorate recipients was made by a committee and approved by the Governor. **— BMB**

Traffic police drives not getting through?

overtaking and traffic signal jumpings. Not following lane discipline too is among the common reasons for accidents," Joint Commissioner of Traffic Karthik Reddy said. He added that in some cases pedestrians who are crossing are also at fault.

Latest incidents of fatal crashes include that of a 38-year-old woman from Mahalakshmi Layout, who died after a speeding truck hit her scooter near Krishnanandanagar Junction this week. She was heading to work with a colleague after dropping her daughter at school. Her colleague sustained injuries. Rajajinagar traffic police have booked the truck driver. In another incident in August, a woman died after falling off Bengaluru flyover, around 12.30 am, when a speeding car coming from the wrong side rammed into a scooter near the Bachahalli Gate flyover, causing a head-on collision. The impact threw the woman off the flyover, resulting in her death, while her husband sustained injuries.

Chaos at arterial roads

According to official data, Bengaluru recorded over 877 road fatalities last year alone, accounting for a significant share of Karnataka's total road deaths. The city's growing vehicle population now exceeding 1.3 crore has put immense pressure on its infrastructure, with many arterial roads witnessing chaotic traffic movement, especially during peak hours.

This year, till August-end, traffic police have intensified enforcement against traffic violations, booking thousands of motorists for dangerous driving behaviour. A total of 4,469 cases have been registered for reckless driving, while 18,932 motorists were booked for speeding. In addition, 23,950 cases of drunk driving were reported, reflecting continued disregard for road safety despite repeated warnings. The highest number of violations, however, was recorded for signal jumping, with a staggering 4,41,203 cases registered so far. Officials said such violations remain the primary contributors to road accidents and congestion across the city. So on average, Bengaluru records around 18 reckless driving cases, 78 speeding cases, 99 drunk driving cases, and 1,815 signal jumping cases every day.

Worse of by design

Traffic experts say the situation is worsened by poor road design, lack of pedestrian infrastructure, and a general lack of awareness about road discipline. "While enforcement is necessary, it's equally important to redesign roads to prioritise safety. Pedestrian crossings, proper lighting, and speed-calming measures are essential," said an expert.

City police have intensified enforcement measures, but pedestrian safety remains a major concern. Many fatal accidents involve individuals attempting to cross busy roads at unmarked locations, often during vehicle movement. "Usually pedestrian deaths happen due to unsafe crossings or by negligence by riders," a traffic police official explained.

However, police officials also noted that two-wheelers are the most frequently involved vehicles in accidents. In fact, across the country, traffic accidents accounted for 44.6% of all accidental deaths in 2023, placing Bengaluru third in the ranking for traffic-related fatalities as BM had reported earlier. These accidents claimed 915 lives, making the city the third-highest in road accident deaths after Delhi (1,457) and Jaipur (1,017). Bengaluru's toll alone represents 5.7% of all road accident deaths reported from India's metro cities that year.

MDMA, hydro ganja & opium in ₹23-cr drug haul over 7 days

Peddler profile: Foreign nationals who had come to city to visit boyfriends, driver who was not satisfied with his earnings, men who were sourcing contraband using crypto

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To eliminate the menace of drugs, police officials launched an intensified, multi-pronged campaign to build a drug-free Bengaluru. As part of a seven-day operation, coordinated raids were conducted, in which various wings of the city police, including CCB, South and North East Divisions, supported by the Dog Squad and SOCO teams, arrested six persons, including two foreign nationals, and seized drugs worth ₹23.84 crore in four different cases.

Among the arrested are two foreign nationals, identified as Marwa Essem Ossam (31) and Zargoun Salaheldin (32), who had arrived in India on medical visas, reportedly to visit their boyfriends, who were nabbed for drug peddling, police officials said.

On October 6, acting on credible information, officers and staff of Kothanur Police Station conducted a raid at an apartment in Gollalai village near Oasis School. During the operation, 4.815 kg of MDMA crystals worth ₹12.03 crore were seized. Police officials explained that the drugs were stored in the fridge and oven. A case has been registered under the NDPS Act and the Foreigners Act at Kothanur Police Station, and further investigation is underway.

Bengaluru police display seized MDMA, Hydro Ganja, and opium during a press briefing on the city's anti-drug operations

In a separate operation, based on information gathered by Rakshit AK, Inspector of CCB's Anti-Narcotics Wing, officials intercepted suspicious parcels containing banned drugs at the KG Nagar post office. Using sniffer dogs, they seized 3 kg of Hydro Ganja and other items valued at ₹3.81 crore. Initial investigations revealed that unknown individuals had been sourcing Hydro Ganja from Thailand and Germany via cryptocurrency under the names Khachibbi Jeezs and Khidoinoise Jeez for sale in Bengaluru. Two suspects, identified as Nizar (37) and Rasheed (46), both from Kerala, were detained, and the case was handed over to the CCB Anti-Narcotics Wing for further investigation.

However, under the same station, a similar operation was conducted on October 6, when the same team intercepted another parcel at the foreign post office and seized 4 kg of Hydro Ganja valued at ₹4 crore. A case has been registered at KG Nagar Police Station, and the CCB Anti-Narcotics Wing has taken over the investigation. The accused in this case are yet to be identified.

Dogs on duty

During the operation, sniffer dogs Ramu and Prince from the South Dog Squad played a key role, detecting the hidden drugs concealed among a pile of parcels at the post office. According to police, the smugglers had cleverly disguised the banned substances as pet food, labelling them as turtle food or other pet food to avoid suspicion.

Ladu Ram (40), a driver from Rajasthan, who had been residing near Kudlu Gate, Singsandra, since 2024, was another accused. His driving profession did not cover his expenses, so, with assistance from his brother-in-law, he started drug peddling for three months. CCB officers, acting on a tip-off in Parappana Agrahara limits, raided and arrested Ladu Ram. The raid led to the seizure of 1.399 kg of MDMA crystals and 2.030 kg of opium worth ₹4 crore, along with other incriminating materials. A case was registered at the CCB Police Station, and the accused was remanded to judicial custody.

Intense crackdown

During the press conference, City Police Commissioner, Seemanth Kumar Singh explained that from January to October 2025, the Bengaluru City Police registered 711 cases related to drug offences, resulting in the seizure of 1,486.55 kilograms of narcotic substances valued at ₹81.21 crore. During this period, 1,013 Indian nationals and 35 foreign nationals involved in drug trafficking were apprehended.

The commissioner further explained: "Specialised city teams focus on drug enforcement, division-wise police teams, community engagement, and inter-agency coordination, achieving significant progress in 2025."

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Excise officials 'lower the bar' at under-construction building

Authorities allegedly overlooked bye-law breaches, safety norms to allow bar to operate out of building near Upparpet Police Station without verification

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The recent Supreme Court order and guidelines on illegal constructions appear to apply only to the middle and lower-middle classes. A bar and restaurant operating from a building still under construction, located directly opposite Upparpet Police Station, has raised questions over the role of law enforcement agencies and the Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM). Allegations suggest that an elected representative (MLA) has influenced officials to ignore violations of building bye-laws, excise rules, and BESCOM regulations, prompting calls for an impartial probe.

The excise department is facing criticism for alleged apathy and negligence in allowing a bar and restaurant to operate from a building still under construction. Officials are accused of permitting the outlet to function despite clear safety risks to customers and ongoing construction activity. According to sources, excise norms allow operation only in renovated premises, but the original buildings were demolished and the business shifted from an adjacent structure to the under-construction site. The move is seen as a violation of excise rules, with allegations that a department official granted permission without verifying the building or visiting the site.

The bar and restaurant operating from an under-construction building opposite Upparpet Police Station, amid alleged safety and licensing violations

Yatish M, one of the property owners, said he lodged a complaint with Upparpet Police last year (FIR 0279/2024), but the Sub-Inspector never bothered to conduct a thorough investigation. It is both disgusting and shocking for the complainant to learn that the police inspector prepared a 'B' report without his knowledge. Normally, the police inspector is expected to summon the complainant, explain why the 'B' report is being prepared, and obtain his signature on the document, but in this case, the inspector failed to follow procedure for reasons best known to him.

BESCOM engineers are generally known to be proactive in disconnecting electricity supplies to small buildings and dwellings. Despite a written complaint dated September 12, 2025 to the BESCOM Managing Director about the illegal electricity supply to the bar and restaurant operating in a building under construction, the engineers are yet to disconnect the power being misused by the owner. According to Yatish, the Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) Commissioner has also been informed about the illegal construction. "I submitted a letter to the Commissioner a month ago, but I am yet to hear from the BCCC authorities," he said.

A bar and restaurant has allegedly been allowed to function from an unfinished building in central Bengaluru, raising concerns over official negligence and possible political influence. Complaints have also been filed against police and BESCOM for failing to act on the violations

BMRCL prepares geotechnical study for Phase 3A Red Line

Corridor from Hebbal to Sarjapur spans 36.59 km with underground and elevated sections

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has initiated preparations for a geotechnical investigation of the proposed Phase 3A Red Line of Namma Metro, connecting Hebbal to Sarjapur. The corridor will span 36.59 km, with a 22.14 km elevated section from Sarjapur to Koramangala and a 14.45 km underground tunnel from Koramangala 2nd Block to Hebbal. Estimated to cost ₹28,405 crore (₹776.3 crore per km), this is one of Bengaluru Metro's most expensive projects to date.

The state government approved the project last year and sought the Centre's clearance. However, the Centre has requested a cost review, prompting BMRCL to consult private experts on reducing the project estimate.

Four-phase investigation plan

Sources said that BMRCL has floated tenders to conduct the study in four stages — from Sarjapur to Carmelaram (10 km), Carmelaram to Koramangala 3rd Block (9 km), Koramangala 2nd Block to KR Circle (9 km underground), and KR Circle to Hebbal (9 km elevated). The tender will open on November 5. Officials explained that the study assesses the soil composition and stability along the tunnel route — including safe excavation depth, underground station design, and the impact of vibrations on nearby buildings. It also determines the foundation depth and strength required for elevated pillars.

Project timeline and stations

The 36.59 km Red Line Metro is targeted for completion by 2031. It will include 11 underground and 17 elevated stations, with five interchange hubs at Ibbalur, Agara, Dairy Circle, KR Circle, and Hebbal.

— BMB

No cough syrups for toddlers, restricted use for older kids too

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

two years of age, for whom cough syrups are generally not recommended. Even in children between two and five years, they should only be given after careful medical assessment and in the right dosage.

Healthcare experts say, given the recent concerns, their advice to parents is to be extremely cautious when it comes to cough syrups for children. Most coughs in children are viral and self-limiting; that is, they usually get better with simple home remedies like warm fluids, saline drops, steam inhalation, and adequate rest. Cough syrups, especially those containing multiple ingredients such as antihistamines, decongestants, and codeine or dextromethorphan, should be avoided unless specifically prescribed by a pediatrician.

"These issues are particularly serious for infants and toddlers under two years of age, for whom cough syrups are generally not recommended. We strongly discourage their use in children under two years of age, as their bodies cannot safely process many of these compounds. Parents should never give adult formulations or adjust doses on their own," said Dr Dhanalakshmi R, Consultant -Paediatrician and Neonatologist, Motherhood Hospitals, HRBR Layout, Bengaluru

Healthcare experts unanimously advise against self-medication with cough syrups, as many times multiple cough syrups are often started together based on previous prescriptions and some random availability. Using nasal saline drops to keep the nostrils clean and unblocked can provide relief, especially in infants and younger children. Moreover, children with fever and other respiratory problems should be kept well hydrated. However, parents should keep a watch on red flag symptoms.

"No improvement in fever and cough in 2-3 days, fast breathing, noisy breathing from the chest, constant irritability in children, decreased oral intake, and urination or vomiting are some of the red flags. Parents should consult a paediatrician at the earliest for assessment at any time of day or night," said Dr. Gunda Srinivas, Consultant, Paediatrics Emergency and Paediatrics, Aster RV Hospital.

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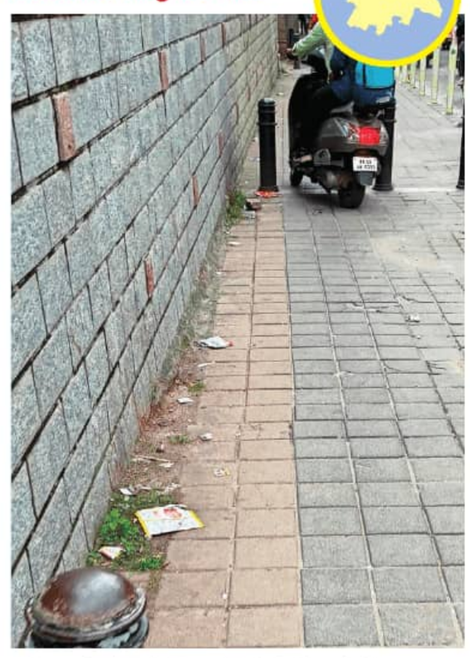
Footpath on Residency Road obstructed by two-wheelers, putting senior citizens at risk.

Blocked walk
Marathahalli

The footpath near Marathahalli Market remains blocked by unattended debris for several weeks.

Lane lock
Kaggadasapura

Unexpected closure of Maha Yogi Vemana Road leads to prolonged congestion on narrow lanes.

Authorities revive BMCs to protect native species

Officials propose fresh strategy to update city's People's Biodiversity Register, ensuring sustainable use of resources and protection of native species

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Under the Biological Diversity Act, every local self-governing institution, rural or urban, must constitute a BMC

Experts stress urgent need to update Bengaluru's People's Biodiversity Register to ensure effective conservation, sustainable use of existing resources, and protection of native species threatened by the rising influx of exotic flora and fauna

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) is exploring a new framework for biodiversity management in the city, aiming to make conservation efforts more efficient and locally accountable.

Sources within GBA said a proposal is underway to establish five Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at the corporation level, with each committee comprising 7 to 11 members.

"Officials are working to have one BMC in every city corporation rather than a single committee for the entire city. This approach will simplify biodiversity documentation and make it more manageable," said a GBA official.

Under the Biological Diversity Act, every local self-governing institution, rural or urban, must constitute a BMC. These committees are responsible for creating a biodiversity register called the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR), which acts as a repository of traditional knowledge on local biological resources, including flora, fauna, and ecosystem information.

Current BMC members say forming committees at the city corporation level will be beneficial, provided they function effectively and receive adequate support and resources.

"Bengaluru's BMC was revived in 2019, but little has been achieved aside from a few meetings. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike could not allocate a budget in six years. This new plan appears to be another step that will lead nowhere," said Vijay Nishant, a BMC member.

Bengaluru's first BMC, mandated under the Biological Diversity Act 2002, was created in 2009 and produced the city's first PBR in 2010. After the committee was revived in 2019, members submitted a zone-wise budget of ₹118.9 lakh to BBMP in May 2024 to document biodiversity across all eight zones. The Urban Development Department (UDD) rejected the proposal, asking the civic agency to restart the process from scratch.

Experts emphasise the urgency of updating Bengaluru's PBR to ensure conservation and sustainable use of existing resources. The rise in exotic plant and animal species has also put native species under significant threat.

"With the increase in exotic species, native species are suffering and gradually fading away. Updating the biodiversity register would help manage habitats, monitor species, and ensure native populations flourish. Many independent researchers and studies conducted by institutions exist. Compiling these into a refreshed PBR could be a practical solution if conducting a fresh, city-wide survey proves unlikely," said another BMC member.

With the city continuing to expand rapidly, experts and activists stress that without an updated PBR and functional BMCs, Bengaluru risks losing much of its natural biodiversity to unplanned urbaniation and environmental neglect.

'Set up signage at accident-prone spots'

The Karnataka High Court on Wednesday disposed of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking directions for the state government and transport authorities to install additional signboards and information boards at strategic and accident-prone locations in Bidar district.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice CM Poonacha was hearing the plea filed by Gurunath Vadde, a Bidar resident. The petitioner highlighted the lack of adequate signages on state highways, district highways, and inter-village roads, which he claimed contributed to a rising number of accidents.

Vadde had submitted a representation to district and transport authorities in October 2024, citing missing or damaged signboards in rural and semi-urban stretches. The plea pointed out that many accident-prone stretches lacked essential indicators, including speed limit boards, curve warnings, and village entry or exit signs, posing a serious threat to motorists and pedestrians. Vadde argued that proper signage is a key aspect of public safety and a duty of state authorities.

While considering the submissions, the bench noted that the grievance was primarily administrative and the authorities already had the power to act. "We do not consider it necessary to issue any directions. However, authorities shall treat the petition as a representation and take such steps as deemed necessary," the bench observed. The petition was disposed of, leaving it to the authorities to address the highlighted concerns and take appropriate action to improve road safety in Bidar. **–BMB**

Statutory duty: Quick disbursal of compensation

In a key clarification regarding compensation in land acquisition cases, the Karnataka High Court has directed that once an award is passed under Section 30 of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013, it is the statutory duty of the Collector to ensure the amount is deposited directly into the bank account of the land loser, preferably within 30 days, unless a dispute exists over the title of the acquired property.

Justice Suraj Govindraj emphasised that prompt payment is central to the Act's spirit, ensuring fairness and preventing hardship to landowners. He noted that delays defeat the purpose of the law. "Once the amount is credited, the landowner may protest the quantum within a reasonable time; otherwise, it will be deemed accepted," the order stated. Respondents argued that the petitioners could approach the Execution Court, but the court rejected this, citing Section 77 of the Act, which mandates direct deposit into the entitled person's bank account. Exceptions apply only if there is refusal, no competent recipient, or a title dispute.

Justice Govindraj clarified that the Collector's duty is statutory, not administrative. Land losers need not initiate execution proceedings to receive compensation. The court directed the Special Land Acquisition Officer to release the awarded compensation with interest within four weeks.

The ruling reinforces the rights of landowners to prompt and fair compensation, underscoring transparency, accountability, and justice under the RFCTLARR Act. **–BMB**

Two-wheeler mishap claims young engineer

A 27-year-old software engineer died, and his colleague sustained injuries after their two-wheeler skidded and lost control on Varthur Main Road early Wednesday, within Whitefield traffic police limits. The deceased, Kaushal Kishore, a resident of Kodihalli and originally from Uttar Pradesh, suffered fatal injuries, while his colleague received minor injuries. According to police, the duo left their office around 3.45 am for tea. Kishore, riding at high speed, reportedly lost control negotiating a curve. Both fell, and Kishore's head struck the pavement. Passersby rushed them to a hospital. Despite medical efforts, Kishore died around 11 am. Police have registered a case and are investigating. **–BMB**

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Mega mineral hunt begins across K'taka's landscape

Multi-agency exploration aims to map untapped deposits of gold, uranium, and rare earths while balancing ecological and economic interests

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Massive geological surveys have been launched across 74 locations in Karnataka, including the outskirts of Bengaluru, as the state eyes its vast untapped mineral wealth.

Karnataka is on the brink of a mineral exploration boom. In what experts describe as one of the state's most extensive geological drives in decades, preliminary surveys have commenced across multiple districts, covering nearly 14,439 hectares. The Geological Survey of India (GSI), the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), the Department of Mines and Geology (DMG), and several public and private exploration agencies have joined forces to identify deposits of gold, uranium, bauxite, nickel, copper, platinum group elements (PGE), and rare earth minerals (REEs) — resources vital to India's industrial growth and clean energy transition.

Mining near B'luru

What makes this exploration drive particularly intriguing is its proximity to Bengaluru. Surveys have begun in Bengaluru Rural and Ramanagara districts, where geological studies suggest possible reserves of nickel, copper, and PGE minerals. These elements are key to producing electric vehicle batteries, semiconductors, solar panels, and defense alloys. The possibility of such valuable resources being located close to the state capital has drawn attention from both policymakers and industry stakeholders.

Each exploration site spans 2 to 5,000 hectares, based on mineral potential

According to official data, the exploration network spans almost every region of Karnataka — from Bidar in the north to Chamarajanagar in the south, and from the Western Ghats to the dry interior

Widespread exploration network

According to official data, the exploration network spans almost every region of Karnataka — from Bidar in the north to Chamarajanagar in the south, and from the Western Ghats to the dry interior. The AMD has taken up research in 17 locations, GSI in 40, and DMG in three. Collectively, they cover 14,439 hectares, with private firms allowed to explore 3,375 hectares, while the remaining 57 sites are under government-led projects.

Each exploration site ranges between two and 5,000 hectares, depending on geological potential and mineral type. While some projects are in the early stage of survey, others have completed multiple exploration phases. In forested or eco-sensitive areas, clearances from the Forest Department are awaited — a step underscoring the state's efforts to balance mineral development with environmental responsibility.

The exploration is not confined to the state's arid interiors. Even the ecologically fragile Western Ghats have been included in the search for rare earth elements. Districts such as Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Belagavi, and Hassan have been marked for surveys focusing on bauxite, copper, gold, platinum, and xenotime — a mineral rich in rare earth elements. Nearly 13.53 sq km of coastal and hilly terrain has been earmarked for study in these regions, where geologists expect to find deposits critical for India's renewable energy and defense sectors.

Northern belt potential

The state's northern districts have also shown strong geological promise. Belagavi has been identified for uranium exploration, while Bidar has revealed traces of vanadium — a metal used in high-strength steel and next-generation batteries. Officials say the data generated from these surveys will form the foundation for future mining leases, to be granted to public or private entities once the findings are verified.

Economic and strategic value

Officials believe this large-scale exploration effort has been in the pipeline for nearly four years, aligned with India's mission toward mineral self-reliance and energy security. Experts have cautioned that mineral exploration should not come at the cost of Karnataka's fragile ecosystems. "While the search for rare earth and strategic minerals is essential for India's technological future, it must not compromise environmental sustainability," said an environmentalist studying the Western Ghats. "A scientifically guided, green mining policy is crucial — one that values forests, rivers, and biodiversity as much as what lies beneath the soil."

Sagging power lines threaten elephants' lives daily

Wildlife experts warn immediate measures are necessary to prevent further elephant fatalities due to poorly maintained electricity infrastructure

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

More than five months ago, the Karnataka High Court directed the state forest department to form area-wise investigating committees and map sagging power lines and illegal electrical fences across Karnataka.

The order was issued considering the high number of elephant deaths due to electrocution in recent years. However, sources from the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) claim that the directive has not yet been implemented.

"No mapping of sagging power lines or illegal electrical fences is being carried out by the Forest Department. The Energy Department has issued circulars stating that all sagging power lines should be fixed. However, KFD is facing a staff shortage, and only essential activities are being undertaken at present," said a senior official from KFD's Wildlife Division.

The High Court's order, passed in May this year, emphasised the implementation and monitoring of guidelines on laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by the central environment ministry. It further instructed forest officials to coordinate with the Energy Department to ensure sagging electrical lines are corrected and maintained at a safe height.

The order came while disposing of a suo-motu petition filed by the court in June 2024, based on a Bangalore Mirror article published on June 13, 2024. Notices were issued to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), the Karnataka government, the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment of Karnataka, and KFD officials, seeking facts and figures on electrocution incidents.

On October 4, an elephant in Goldarade, Channapatna died after contacting an electric pole wire

A division bench of Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice MI Arun observed that authorities must commit to conserving elephants and minimising deaths caused by electrocution.

Between January and July 2025, six elephants died from electrocution, compared to five during the same period in 2024. In 2023, eight such deaths were recorded, followed by three in 2022 and four in 2021 in the first seven months.

Wildlife conservationists stress that while mapping sagging lines and illegal connections may have been challenging during monsoon, the Department should undertake this exercise immediately without waiting for the Energy Department.

Either the tree should have been removed, or the wire tightened to prevent such incidents. The Forest Department must ensure such tragedies do not recur," said Ramesh Belagere, wildlife researcher at the Foundation of Ecology and Education Development.

This persistent inaction highlights the urgent need for a proactive strategy to protect elephants from preventable deaths due to poorly maintained electrical infrastructure.

Senior cops conduct ground checks on police efficiency

In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the Karnataka Police Department has deployed senior officers — ADGPs and IGPs — to the field to directly assess the performance, responsiveness, and public perception of police functioning across various districts. The move, directed by State DGP Dr MA Saleem, aims to ensure greater accountability, transparency, and public trust in the police system.

As per the circular issued on October 6, fourteen senior officers have been assigned specific districts for a two-day review of the respective district police units. They have been instructed to hold meetings on crime management, investigation progress, and the overall functioning of police units, and to submit detailed reports within ten days.

Top brass evaluates implementation of 'Police at Every Doorstep' initiative

Ground-level inspection

Officers will check whether citizens are receiving free legal aid, if complaints are being addressed promptly, and whether the newly launched Police at Every Doorstep initiative is being implemented effectively. To gauge the ground reality, DGP Saleem has directed the use of "decoy" personnel to discreetly assess station-level functioning. The visits will also evaluate citizen-police relations, beat policing efficiency, and public-friendly service delivery.

Case study review

During their visits, officers must select one major or sensational criminal case from the district, review its investigation, and document the methods used to crack it — a study aimed at enhancing collective learning within the force. They will also review SC/ST Atrocity Act and POCSO cases, ensuring investigations are completed and charge sheets filed within stipulated timeframes.

Crime control focus

The DGP's directive further stresses strengthening policing, crime control, and intelligence gathering. They will also examine social media surveillance, track migrant activities, and review action against individuals spreading misinformation or unrest.

District assignments

Among the key assignments: ADGP Alok Kumar will oversee Belagavi City and Rural, R Hitendra will cover Hubballi-Dharwad and Belagavi, BK Singh will handle Mangaluru and Mandya, and M Chandrashekhar will assess Mysuru City and Hassan. Similarly, IGPs including Devajyoti Ray (Kalaburagi, Bidar), N Satish Kumar (Mysuru, Kodagu), and Sandeep Patil (Chikkaballapur, Vijayanagar) have been allotted their zones.

A senior police official said, "This hands-on field exercise — blending performance audit with public accountability — marks a strategic shift in Karnataka's policing approach, aimed at building a more transparent, people-centric system."

–BMB

 # Actor murdered
'Jhund' film actor Priyanshu aka Babu Chhetri murdered by friend after brawl; accused held

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

In real & reel

For the first time in Sandalwood, a visually impaired couple are cast as a couple in a short film, Sharath Matthu Sharadhi that was screened for media persons at SRV Theater on Tuesday. The movie features Ashwini Angadi and Veeresh M, a visually-impaired couple in real life, who play a visually-impaired couple in the movie bankrolled by Ganesh BM under the Talkguru Creations banner. Jagadish M is the director.

"I thank Ashwini Angadi for giving suggestions during the shooting. I am grateful to veteran actor Dattanna for agreeing to act in this movie. He did not take remuneration for this role," said Jagadish.

Ashwini Angadi is a recipient of Queen's Young Leader Award. "Visually-impaired couples can lead perfectly happy lives," said Angadi. Veeresh M, a music teacher at a government school, said that he learnt a lot during the shooting of the movie.

Dattanna said society must not discriminate against visually-impaired couples.

Trailer out

The trailer of Time Pass was unveiled at SRV Theater on Tuesday. Time Pass, billed as a dark comedy, is scheduled to arrive in theaters on October 17. The movie is directed by K Chethan Jodidar who debuts in Sandalwood as a director with this movie. Chethan Jodidar has not been formally trained in direction.

"I have not worked under any director or joined any school for training in direction or acting. I had an opportunity to play small character roles in a few Kannada movies. Since there was no progress in my acting career, I decided to direct a movie. I learnt direction by watching movies and observing the working style of directors at shooting locations," said Jodidar.

The director said he has been making efforts to popularise the movie. "We have organised events in Mysuru and Mangaluru during Dasara celebrations. We have been visiting colleges to promote our movie among students. The movie revolves around the problems of a director. A few real incidents have also motivated me to write the script," the director said.

SIX YARDS OF STYLE

Aditi explains why her love for sarees is unmatchable

Aditi Rao Hydari was widely praised for her traditional looks in Padmaavat. Hailing from a royal lineage — from the royal families of Hyderabad — the actress has always embraced her regal heritage with grace. Known for her love of sarees, Aditi was recently spotted draped in one at the Bombay Times Fashion Week, where she walked the ramp with effortless elegance.

Aditi shared, "I love sarees because you can drape them in so many different ways. It's six yards of fabric that you can truly make your own and have fun with. Growing up, I took dance lessons, and my teacher taught us how to drape both dhotis and sarees. It's one of those garments that transcend trends — sarees are eternal."

> "I love sarees because you can drape them in so many different ways

For her walk at The Saffron House show, Aditi sported a saree with a modern twist. She explained, "It had a Victorian influence, inspired by Audrey Hepburn, which is why the blouse was cut in this particular way. These are hand-painted sarees in today's digital era—it felt like the coming together of many timeless elements."

—ETimes

Keep calm & carry on

Anushka Sharma recently opened up about how learning to stay calm and respond thoughtfully has transformed her life—and even influenced her husband, cricketer Virat Kohli.

At a promotional event for a sports brand, Anushka said, "A few years ago, I used to react too quickly to situations. Now, I'm learning to respond thoughtfully, and it has really improved the quality of my life."

She even revealed how her calm approach has also impacted Virat. She added, "It has changed my life… and yours?" pointing to his impulsive on-field reactions. She continued, "Sometimes the bowlers aren't celebrating as much as Virat is…"

In an interview with Instant Bollywood, motivational and spiritual speaker Jaya Kishori talked about the couple choosing spirituality. She said, "In total, a successful person is the one who goes on a spiritual path. Only then will he be able to bring peace in his success, his family, and everything."

—ETimes

Travel restrictions

Legal issues continue to escalate for Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty Kundra and her husband Raj Kundra. In a recent ruling, the Bombay High Court has ordered that both of them be denied international travel permits. This means that they cannot travel abroad without the permission of the investigating officers or the court.

Due to this restriction, the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) has issued a LOC (Look Out Circular) against Shilpa Shetty and Raj Kundra. According to IANS, the actress's lawyer told the court that Shilpa must attend a YouTube event in Colombo from October 25 to October 29. However, when the court asked the lawyer, he replied, "There is no call until the travel is approved."

The court condemned this and announced that Rs. 60 crore must first be paid on the basis of the fraud charges; only then will the travel permit be considered. The next hearing in this case will be held on October 14, 2025.

In this, businessman Deepak Kothari has accused Shilpa and Raj of defrauding him of Rs 60 crore from 2015 to 2023.

He said that the money given for business expansion was used for personal expenses.

—ETimes

Appreciation for ex

Hollywood star Jeremy Allen White is exhibiting his love for Rosalia a year after they headed to splitsville.

'The Bear' star, 34, was not shy about shouting out the musician, 33, when he was asked who his favourite Spanish artist is, reports 'People' magazine.

At the red carpet, he told Los 40, "Rosalía, I love so much". He went on to say about his ex, "She's wonderful. She's flamenco... Otherwise, no, nothing's coming to mind".

As per 'People', the pair were first romantically linked together in October 2023 when TMZ caught them together at a farmer's market. For the outing, White wore a green khaki cardigan with baggy black joggers, as Rosalia wore a blue tie-dye hoodie and white shorts.

A month later, they were photographed again, this time in a parking lot in Los Angeles. Photos showed the two talking with White's feet crossed in between Rosalia's legs. In December 2023, the two were seen together again, holding hands, and were spotted outside a restaurant weeks later. Days after White won the 2024 Golden Globes for best performance by a male actor in a musical or comedy, he and Rosalia were seen kissing on a Los Angeles street after a date night.

—IANS

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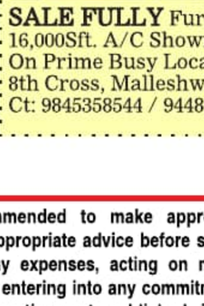

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I, Mallesha C.R S/o Ramanna R/o # 114/8, 1st floor, Totadaguddada halli, Bengaluru-560073 have changed my name to Mallesh C.R for all purposes.

I, Ramesha T S/o Thimmaiah no #31, Appagondana Halli Manne, Nelamangala Taluk B'lore rural district have changed my name to Ramesh T.

I, Kokati Padma W/o Kukati Sudhakar Reddy R/o No.68, 2nd cross, 16th main, BTM layout, 2nd stage, Bengaluru 560076 have changed my name to KUKATI PADMA. I shall be called by this name for all purposes

I, Rashi D Surana W/o Prathik Mutha V R/o No.13/1 Bhawarkamal Bachammal road Coxtown Bangalore - 560005 have changed my name to Rashi for all purposes.

I, Raghavendra Ganapathi Hegde R/o 32, Holagadde Kodar, Muttalli, Uttar Kannada-581340 have changed my minor daughter's name from Pranjala to Pranjala Raghavendra Hegde.

I, Udaya Chandran R R/o No.7 B, 8th Cross, 1st H Main, Sir Mv Nagar, Bengaluru 560 016 have changed my minor son's name from Harshal U to Harshal U Abraham for all purposes

I, Abhilasha Krishna R/o No.77/2, 1st floor, 2nd cross, 1st main, Krishnamraju Lyt, IIM post, Bengaluru 560076 have changed my name to Ashritha Gowda.I shall be called by this name for all purposes

I, SYEDA HUMERA NASREEN residing at # 16/1, Police Lone D Sreet, Bharathinagar, Bangalore – 560001. I have changed my name to SYEDA HAJIRA NASREEN. Vide affidavit dated 03/10/2025 sworn before notary. C Sharada Bengaluru

I, MD MOTLLIV residing at # 34/1, Modi Road, C Cross Devarajeevanahalli, Bangalore – 560045. I have changed my name to ABDUL MUTTALIB. Vide affidavit dated 01/10/2025 sworn before notary. C Sharada Bengaluru

I Venu Gopala S, R/o G-68,A Block, Sripadam Nivas Apts, 4th Cross, Basavanapura Main Road, Devasandra Post, Krishnarajapuram, B'lore-560092 have changed my name to Venugopal S.

I, Prashanth Cyril Anthony S/o Anthony R R/O No 114,1St Floor ,13th Cross Rd,Anand Layout, Thindlu, Veerupakshapura, B'luru 560097 have changed my name to Prashanth Cyril.

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Child labour cases in K'taka rise by 419%

Data shows volatile trends of inspections, rescues, and cases registered between 2020 and 2025; while awareness programmes have increased vigilance, systemic eradication remains a challenge

Despite spending Rs 23.43 crore over the past five years to curb child and adolescent labour, Karnataka continues to witness a rise in cases, even as rescue operations have increased significantly. Between 2020 and 2024, the number of children rescued surged from 172 in 2020 to 781 in 2024—a 354 per cent increase—before dropping to 278 by June 2025. Similarly, cases detected rose from 107 in 2020 to 556 in 2024, a 419 per cent jump, with 164 cases reported in the first half of 2025. Inspections have also fluctuated, peaking at 43,937 in 2021 before totaling 1,72,227 over the five-year period.

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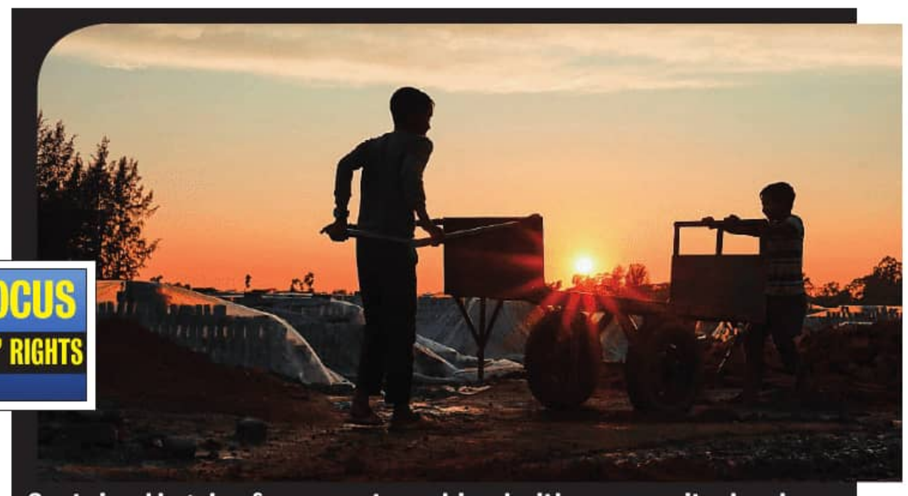

Sustained legal enforcement combined with community-level vigilance are deemed key to prevent rise in child labour cases

An analysis of the data shows that between 2020 and mid-2025, Karnataka's child labour inspections, rescues, and cases showed volatile trends. Inspections rose sharply from 6,757 in 2020 to 43,937 in 2021 (+550 per cent), then dropped 47 per cent to 23,109 in 2022, rebounded 69 per cent to 39,001 in 2023, slightly rose 7 per cent to 41,652 in 2024, and fell 57 per cent to 17,771 by June 2025. Rescues followed a generally upward trend until 2024, increasing from 172 in 2020 to 781 (+354 per cent), before plunging 64 per cent to 278 in 2025. Cases grew steadily from 107 in 2020 to 556 in 2024 (+419 per cent), before dropping sharply 70 per cent to 164 in 2025. The data highlights fluctuating enforcement with surges in detections and rescues offset by recent declines.

District-level monitoring and enforcement

Sources said that district-level Child Labour Project Societies, chaired by District Collectors, and taluk-level committees under Tahsildars have been overseeing monthly inspections, raids, and rescue operations. From 2023 to June 2025, 651 cases were filed in courts, leading to 50 convictions and fines totaling Rs 31.91 lakh. Bengaluru Urban district reported the highest number of cases, with 123 incidents and 88 children rescued in this period.

Challenges despite awareness programmes

While government awareness programmes, including campaigns at district, taluk, and village levels, have increased vigilance, systemic eradication remains a challenge. Factors include recurring violations, inadequate legal deterrence, and fluctuating inspections, as reflected in declining numbers in early 2025.

Need for grassroot strengthening

Experts, including Dr KT Thippe Swamy of the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, emphasise empowering gram panchayat women and child protection committees, ensuring school attendance, and strictly monitoring shops and industries to prevent child labour. Sustained legal enforcement combined with community-level vigilance is seen as crucial to reversing the rising trend and protecting vulnerable children in Karnataka.

—**Sridhar Vivan**

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Well, the heart-shaped traffic signal sure has our heart. A X user who noticed the signal, shared a pic online https://x.com/AnkitaxPriya/status/1975880357863096673

anks @AnkitaxPriya · 3h
one thing i love about Bengaluru is that people here somehow make even the simplest, most important things look cooler. like @ManipalHealth turning the red traffic light into a heart to spread awareness about heart health, cute.

What's tweeting

@prasadKGB maps out the city's traffic status in one line : The whole city has spread RED CARPET to all road users ! https://x.com/prasadKGB/status/1975919077039509921

@gurudutt_biswal found a auto driver with a killer sense of humour. Check out

Gurudutt Biswal @gurudutt_biswal · Oct 6
My Bengaluru auto guy has a great sense of humour
GAS OR ASS NO FREE RIDES
0 TO NAUGHTY IN 3 DRINKS

his one-liners: My Bengaluru auto guy has a great sense of humour.

Rants about IT corridor roads will never end. How can they end, when the situation of the road is such as this pointed out by @YTKDIndia

#YeThikKarkeDikhao @YTKDIndia · 5h
Bengaluru's "IT Corridor" — the road that powers India's tech billions.
Varthur Main Road looks less like a city street, more like a muddy battlefield.
Every year crores collected in taxes, every year citizens left to drown in potholes.
Roads of Bengaluru IT Corridor
@CivicOp_India
From Civic Opposition of India

INBRIEF

Robber arrested in swift operation

Pulikeshi Nagar Police arrested a man identified as Manzoor Ahmed (42) within 12 hours after a cab driver was threatened and his vehicle stolen. The incident occurred early on October 7 at around 4.30 am, when the cab driver was threatened at knifepoint to hand over Rs 5,000. When he refused, the assailant fled with the cab.

Acting promptly, Pulakeshinagar Police launched a probe, gathering intelligence on the suspect. Their efforts led to the arrest of the accused along with recovery of the stolen cab within half a day. Police officials explained he was arrested on Tuesday late night near Baiyyappanahalli.

Police revealed that the accused is a known rowdy with 14 previous criminal history in the city . He has been previously booked for serious offenses, including murder, attempt to murder, robbery. **BMB**

Head constable dies by suicide

A person identified as Sharanappa (34), the driver of Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka, was found dead at his home in Bapuji Nagar on Wednesday evening. The deceased, a Head Constable attached to the City Armed Reserve (CAR), reportedly ended his life.

Sharanappa, who hails from Kalaburagi, lived in a rented house in Bapuji Nagar with his wife, Shailashree, a constable with the Magadi Road Traffic Police, and their two daughters. According to Byatarayanapura police, the incident occurred when no one was at home.

Sharanappa had been working as the driver of Ashoka's escort vehicle for the past two and a half years. Preliminary probe indicates family disputes may have contributed to the decision. However, police have not found any suicide note, and the exact cause of death remains under investigation. Police said a formal case is not yet filed. The body has been sent to Victoria Hospital for post-mortem. **BMB**

Your Connect

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VICTOR DEVAN, Father of ISAAC DANIEL VICTOR residing at No. 401, Vandana Elite, 1st Main, 1st Cross, 1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore -560034 hereby declare that my Son's name is ISAAC DANIEL and ISAAC DANIEL VICTOR both the name belongs to him. I hereby further declare that my son's correct name is ISAAC DANIEL VICTOR vide affidavit dated 25.09.2025 before notary A.S. Narayana Reddy, Bangalore.

I, Sneha D Surana W/o Jeetesh Kumar P R/o No.13/1, Bachammal road Coxtown Bangalore -560005 have changed my name to Sneha for all purposes.

I Nishat Anjum Anwarhusain Madallikar W/O, Aneesahmedh Yarzari R/o Flat S-4, Pyramid Bilberry, 2nd Floor, Off. Thanisandra Main Road, Near Agrahara Lake, Chokkanahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560064 have changed my name to Nishatanjum Yarzari.

I SANGITA DEY, LOST MY CLASS 12TH MARKSHEET YEAR 2005 NO. 40329/01,AND D PHARMACY 1ST YEAR MARKSHEET REG NO. B54743. CONTACT-7005313627

I, ARTA SOBHARANI ANSHUMAN S/O ARTA MAHARANA aged about 35 years R/At B105, Bhavya Pristine Apartment, Bhoganhalli, Bellandur, B'luru-560103, have changed my name to ARTA SOBHA ANSHUMAN vide affidavit dtd:08/10/2025 sworn before notary Uday Kumar K, B'luru

Prison officials suspended

Seven prison officials at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison are under scrutiny following a viral video showing rowdy-sheeter Srinivas, aka Gubbachi Seena, celebrating his birthday inside the jail. The footage, circulated widely on social media, showed him wearing a garland and cutting a cake with fellow inmates.

The celebration occurred on September 9, 2025. A preliminary inquiry conducted by DIG KC Divyashree, Southern Zone, on orders of the Director General of Prisons, confirmed lapses in duty by the prison staff. As a result, one head warder and one warder have been recommended for suspension, while an assistant superintendent, two jailers, and two assistant jailers face departmental action. ADGP (Prisons) B Dayananda stated that the inquiry report has been accepted. **BMB**

LKG, UKG in anganwaadis

The Department of Women and Child Development is set to introduce pre-primary education (LKG and UKG) in 5,000 selected Anganwadis across Karnataka from the upcoming academic year. The official announcement will be made on November 19, coinciding with former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary. In the first phase, classes will begin in 5,000 Anganwadis, followed by 15,000 more centres next year.

Each centre will receive a grant of Rs 2 lakh to set up classrooms, teaching aids, and play areas, with Anganwadi workers receiving special training. Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar said the move aims to ensure quality early education for underprivileged children. Each centre will cater to 25 children aged 3 to 6, with free education, uniforms, bags, and books. **BMB**

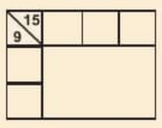
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

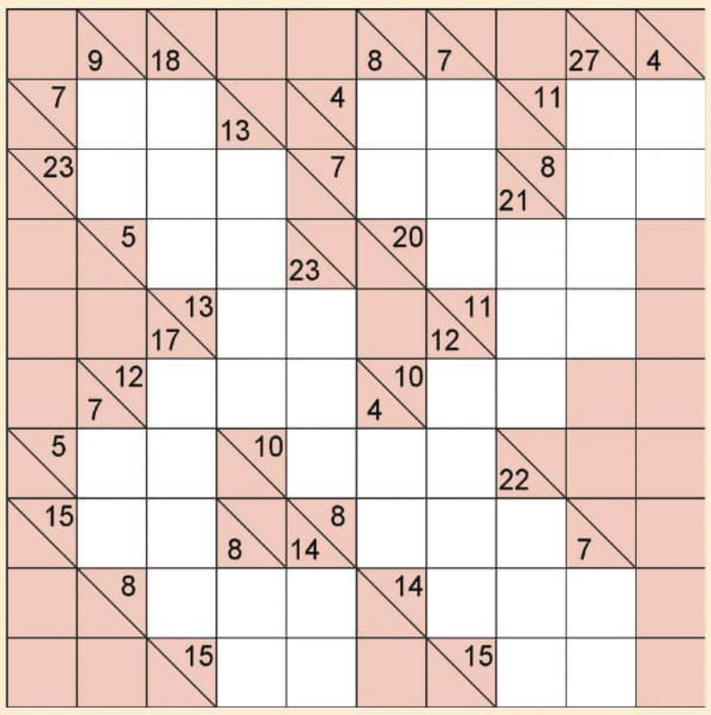
300^2 + 5^x = 325^2
x = ?

Kakuro

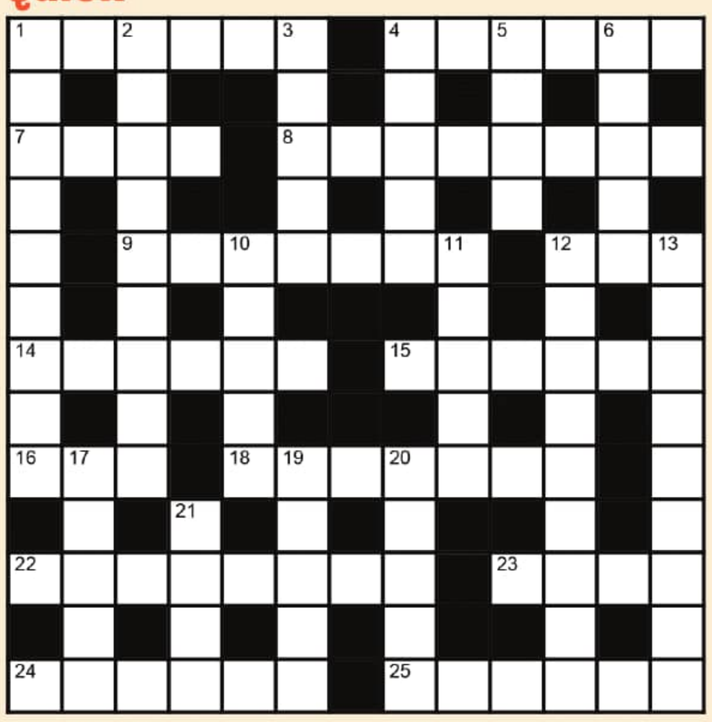
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Run fast over short distances (6)
4 Indian off-spinner Ravichandran _____ (6)
7 Beams of light (4)
8 Gambling game (8)
9 Restaurant at the Leela Place (7)
12 Be victorious (3)
14 Pre-Christmas season (6)
15 Newspaper man (6)
16 Kind (3)
18 Longed for (7)
22 Unquestioning or unreserved (8)
23 Hindu goddess (4)
24 Courteous (6)
25 Very thin (6)

DOWN

1 Indian goddess of wisdom (9)
2 Capital of Iceland (9)
3 Bone in leg (5)
4 Capital of Ghana (5)
5 Thermal energy (4)
6 A Persian (5)
10 Current coins and notes (5)
11 Radioactive inert gas (5)
12 Reserved (9)
13 Usual state (9)
17 W Indian dance (5)
19 A master of ceremonies (5)
20 Classifies or ranks (5)
21 High: prefix (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS H

XPA EG XEGU? PU XPA JURKLG IKAV RJJ VUL.

Linemaro

Your eyes shine like the brightest star in the sky

Mindchow

He who dares to teach must never cease to learn

Joke of the day

If loving someone is putting them in a straitjacket and kicking them down a flight of stairs, then yes, I have loved a few people

Loop

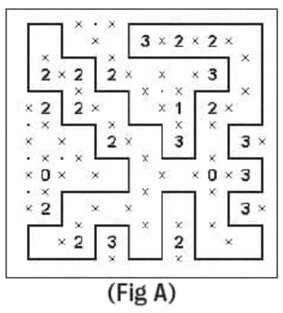
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

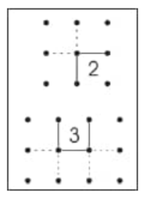
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

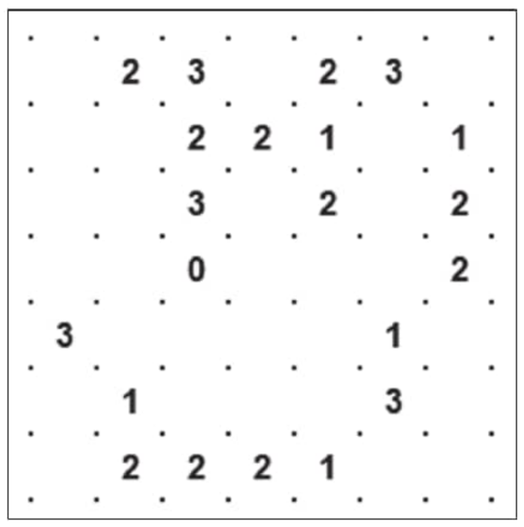
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



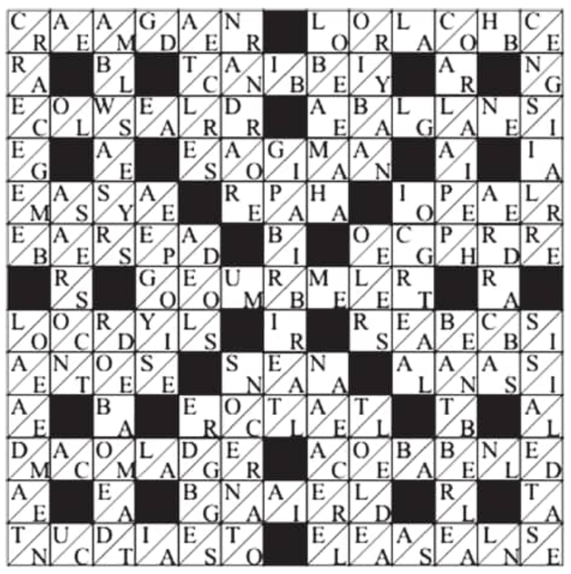
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



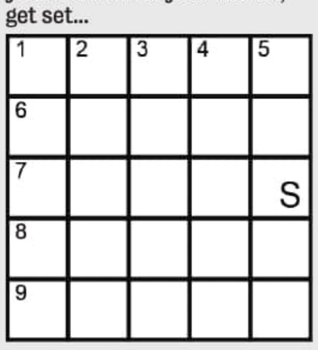
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 As rut; 6 A sloe; 7 Silex; 8 Maine; 9 D Cask

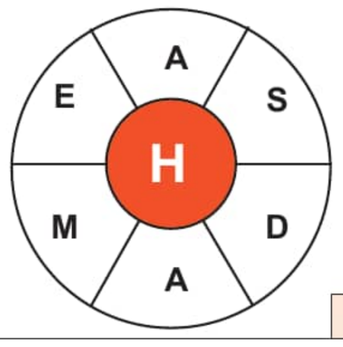
DOWN

1 Sad Al; 2 A mule; 3 Cox it; 4 Inker; 5 SS Sea

Mensapuzzle

What is missing from the last circle?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; **11** Good; **13** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

1			2			8		
	8	2	6	9				
9					7		2	
		3			8	1		9
7								4
8		5	1			6		
	4		3					5
				2	6	7	3	
		8			9			1

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 20
2 4 5 9

Medium = 20
2 3 4 6

Hard = 13
2 2 3 9

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

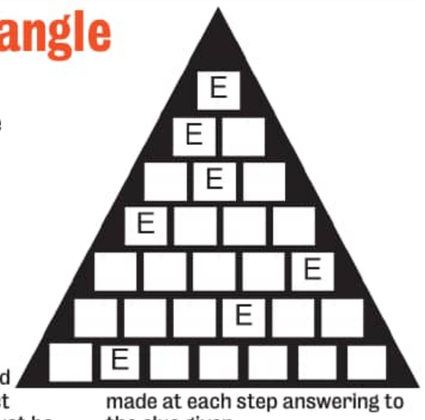
Differences: 1. Hat is tilted back. 2. Mouth is different. 3. Hair is different. 4. Straw is longer. 5. Window is not as wide. 6. Glass is moved.

Riddler

On a regular 12-hour digital clock how many times would the same three digits in a row be displayed (e.g. 1:11, 11:12, 12:22) in one day?

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Brute...
3 Brewed beverage
4 The orient
5 Flavour
6 Affirm
7 Lease holders



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

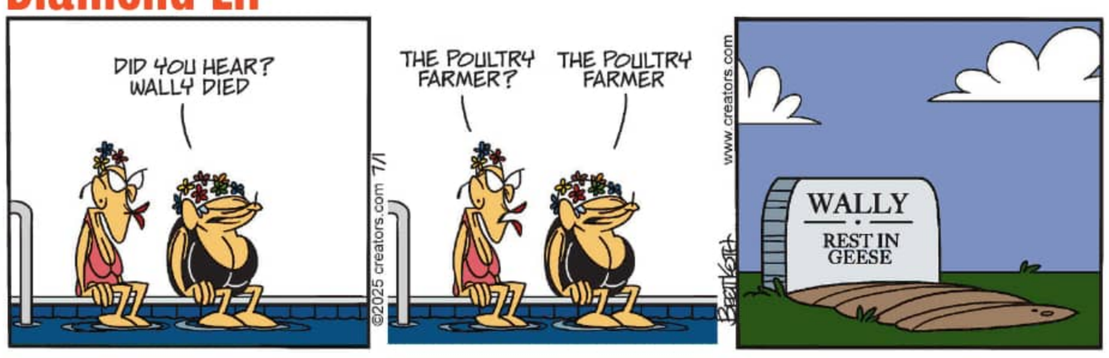
COMICS

Popeye

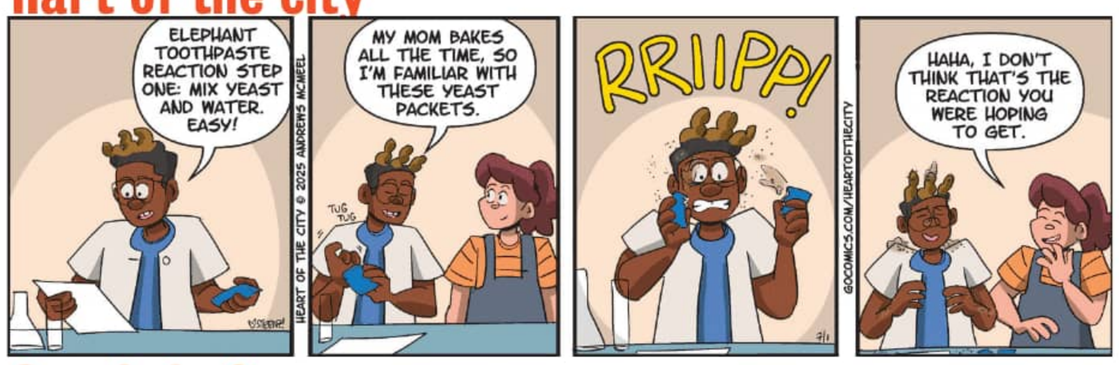
SEE! THEY'RE NOT OF THIS WORLD!
DO YOU HAVE CENTERS OF CULTURE?
?
MOO!
popeye.com
I TELL YOU, SIR ...THEY COULD BE DANGEROUS!
PHOOEY!
©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
ANYTHIN' WHAT TALKS TO COWS AIN'T DANGEROUS... THEY IS STUPID!!
MOO!
CURSES! IT KEEPS SAYING THE SAME THING!
BUD SAGENDORF
1-9

Bizarrotrip

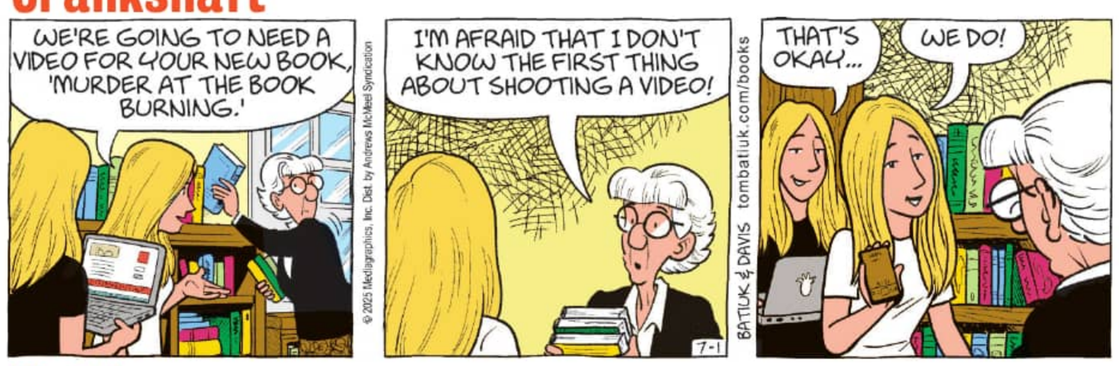
Diamond Lil



Hart of the city


ELEPHANT TOOTHPASTE REACTION STEP ONE: MIX YEAST AND WATER. EASY!
MY MOM BAKES ALL THE TIME, SO I'M FAMILIAR WITH THESE YEAST PACKETS.
TUG TUG
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL.
RRIIPP!
HAHA, I DON'T THINK THAT'S THE REACTION YOU WERE HOPING TO GET.
@OOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


WE'RE GOING TO NEED A VIDEO FOR YOUR NEW BOOK, 'MURDER AT THE BOOK BURNING.'
I'M AFRAID THAT I DON'T KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT SHOOTING A VIDEO!
THAT'S OKAY...
WE DO!
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
7-1

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

This year carries dynamic energy, driving curiosity, adaptability, and progress. You'll explore new interests that expand both your mind and spirit. Opportunities to travel or study spark personal growth. Professional life flourishes through innovation. Friendships strengthen when communication flows openly. Financially, smart risks bring rewards. Confidence grows steadily.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Stand firm in your truth despite opposition. Authenticity matters more than pleasing others. The cosmos supports you— hold your ground and act with integrity. Courageously defend your beliefs today, Aries. Inner strength prevails.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

If faith feels heavy, heal deeper roots. Ancestral patterns influence delays. Ground through breathwork or walking barefoot. Anchor your energy, release blocks, and reconnect with source to advance your dreams.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Resistance blocks your path. Synchronicities confirm fertile times for teaching, guiding, or mentoring. Step into leadership roles personally and professionally. Your future self urges embracing responsibility to reshape norms.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Balance masculine drive with feminine nurture. Pastlife gifts reawaken, inspiring creativity and abundance. Release outdated dramas; embrace this rite of passage by honouring your body, mind, and soul's harmony.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Courage alone won't suffice; balance action with reflection. Weigh chaos against peace, heart against mind. Manifestations await— decide clearly what continues forward and what's left behind now, Leo. Your gateway opens.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Anchor magic by embracing pain and celebrating strengths equally. Love for animals fosters kindness. A message from departed furry friends: play more, because joy is life's truest purpose.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Heart and mind are in conflict, embrace the irony. Endings and karmic encounters bring divine growth. Accept with faith, angels watch over you. Brokenness births wisdom and necessary transformation. Trust the healing journey.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Soulmate connections uplift, healing ancestral challenges. Blessings flow through heartfelt bonds, easing transitions. Reclaim joy through play, trust your soul's shift, and embrace abundance manifesting from deep emotional support.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Patience, flexibility, and faith empower relationships. Healing family dynamics strengthens your foundation. Manipulation loses power as clarity emerges. Pure intentions guide your path forward— embrace newfound confidence.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Self-love births freedom. Celebrate small victories, honour resilience, and refuse outside judgement. Silver linings shine brighter than storms— embrace your radiant symphony and dance confidently with life's rhythm.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Head and heart are in conflict. Trust supportive loved ones, listen to your heart's soft wisdom, and act from compassion. Timing favours bold decisions— make choices aligned with truth. Prosperity will follow.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Revelations flow easily today—tune into intuition. Insights clarify mysteries and deepen cosmic understanding. Shed burdensome expectations, embrace clarity, and align actions with higher wisdom. Trust revelations as guiding stars.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE

S Tanmayi, Bengalujru

Jatin Singh, Bengaluru

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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

$5^{\wedge}x = 325^{\wedge}2 - 300^{\wedge}2$
$5^{\wedge}x = (325-300)(325+300)$
$5^{\wedge}x = 25 * 625$
$5^{\wedge}x = 5^{\wedge}2 * 5^{\wedge}4$
$x = 6$

QUOTE UNCODE

Who is wise? He who learns from all men.

RIDDLER 34 times. These 17 instances will be visible twice in a 24 hour period. 1:11; 2:22; 3:33; 4:44; 5:55; 10:00; 11:10; 11:11; 11:12; 11:13; 11:14; 11:15; 11:16; 11:17; 11:18; 11:19; 12:22

FAST FIVE

S	U	T	R	A
A	L	O	E	S
A	M	I	N	E
L	E	X	I	S
D	A	C	K	S

STRIKE OUT

R	E	A	D	E	R		O	R	A	C	H	E
A	L		T	A	B	B	Y		A		N
C	O	W	A	R	D		E	A	G	L	E	S
E		A		E	A	G	A	N		I		I
M	A	Y	A		R	A	H		O	P	A	L
E	A	S	E	D		B	O	C	H	R	E
	R		G	O	U	R	M	E	T		A
L	O	R	I	S		I		R	A	B	B	I
E	N	O	S		S	E	N		L	A	S	S
A		A		E	C	L	A	T		B		L
D	A	M	A	G	E		C	O	B	B	L	E
E		E		D		G	N	A	R	L		L		T
N	U	D	I	S	T		E	A	S	E	L	S

QUICK

S	P	R	I	N	T		A	S	H	W	I	N
A		E		I		C		E		R		
R	A	Y	S		B	A	C	A	R	A	T
A		K		I		R		T		N		
S	J	A	M	A	V	A	R		W	I	N
W		A		O		A		I		O		
A	D	V	E	N	T		E	D	I	T	O	R
T		I		E		O		H		M		
I	L	K		Y	E	A	R	N	E	D		A
	I		M		A		M		I		K	A	L	I
I	M	P	L	I	C	I	T		K	A	L	I
B		T		E								T
P	O	L	I	T	E		S	K	I	N	N	Y

MENSA PUZZLE

BULL'S EYE ASHAMED, ahead, dash, head, mash, mashed, mesh, shed, shad, shade, sham, shame, shamed,

1. In each row of the diagram, the values in the central circle equal the sums of the digits in corresponding segments of the left and right hand circles.

SUDOKU

1	7	4	2	3	5	8	9	6
9	5	6	8	1	7	4	2	3
3	8	2	6	9	4	5	1	7
7	6	1	9	5	2	3	8	4
4	2	3	7	6	8	1	5	9
8	9	5	1	4	3	6	7	2
2	4	7	3	8	1	9	6	5
5	1	9	4	2	6	7	3	8
6	3	8	5	7	9	2	4	1

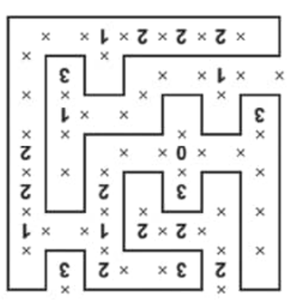
ALPHA TRIANGLE

E, Et, Tea, East, Taste, Attest, Tenants.

GO FIGURE

Easy
4 + 5 + 9 + 2 = 20
Medium
6 x 3 − 2 + 4 = 20
Hard
2 x 3 + 9 − 2 = 13

LOOP



KAKURO

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SAMSUNG

Galaxy S25 Ultra

Got a question? Go live. Get answers.

12:00
100
Google Gemini Live
Gemini, these Gulab Jamuns are cracking. Is there something else I can **make with it?**
Don't worry, you can still use them. How about making a trifle with layers of Gulab Jamun, custard, and **whipped cream?**

Google Gemini

Own now at ₹ 111499 (1 unit)*

Get benefits worth ₹ 18500#

Pair up
Galaxy Watch8 Classic
Get ₹ 15000~ off

Samsung Care+
(Two year protection plan)

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